AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT

1. CONTRACT ID CODE

2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO.	3.EFFECTIVE DATE
2	3/17/2003
4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.	5.PROJECT NO. (If applicable)
APVSHQSF-0008-2	APVSHQSF-0008-2
6. ISSUED BY Code USDA, APHIS, MRPBS Butler Square Bldg., 5th Floor 100 North Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 55403	7. ADMINISTERED BY Code (If other than Item 6) Not Applicable
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No. Street, County, State and ZIP Code) To All Offerors/Bidders Code: FACILITY CODE:	[X] 9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. 006-M-APHIS-03 9B. DATED (See Item 11) 1/9/2003 [ ] 10A. MOD. OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO. 10B. DATED (See Item 13)

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

[X] The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers [X] is extended, [ ] is not extended. Offerors must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended by one of the following methods: (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 1 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

EXCEPTION TO STANDARD FORM 30
APPROVED BY GSA/OIRM (6/85)

STANDARD FORM 30(REV 10-83)
FAR(48 CFR) 53.243

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT

13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS. IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

[ ] A.THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.

[ ] B.THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation data,etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).

[ ] C.THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:

[ ] D.OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor [ ] is not, [ ] is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible).

This solicitation is hereby being amended to extend the date for receipt of offers.
See Attachment I for clarifications to original Statement of Work.

The hour and date specified for receipt of offers is extended to 2:30 p.m., April 9, 2003.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)	16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) Patricia Harris Contracting Officer
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR _____ (Signature of person authorized to sign)	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA _____ (Signature of Contracting Officer
15C. DATE SIGNED	16C. DATE SIGNED

EXCEPTION TO STANDARD FORM 30

Attachment I
Solicitation 006-M-APHIS-03
Genetic Testing of Amino Acids in Sheep

This solicitation is being amended as follows to clarify some technical issues in regards to the Scrapie Testing.

Question: Clarification is needed regarding the anticipated number of DNA extractions and the anticipated number of "genetic testings" of the three condons to be performed in the Base Year.

2. Requesting identical information for Option Year I.

3. Requesting clarification that the genetic testing to be performed in Option Year I is for 42,000 "new" genotypes, not for a continuation of the 42,000 genotypes required in the Base Year.

Answer: It is estimated that samples from 42,000 animals would be submitted for genotyping in FY 2003. Since ½ or less of the fiscal year will remain, if and when contracts are awarded, it is estimated that approximately 21,000 animals will be genotyped during the remainder of the FY 2003. This is only an estimate and should not be considered a guaranteed number for planning, etc.

It is estimated FY 2004 would generate 10-20% more animals than FY2003 to be genotyped (47-52,000). Again this is only an estimate.

Condon 171 will be the most frequently requested site; Condon 136 will be the next most frequently requested site for genotyping and both strands of DNA shall be read at the condon site. The two condons may be requested together or separately with the frequency of these requests being unknown at this time. Condon 154 will be infrequently requested.

Answer: Base Year: Beginning date of award through September 30, 2003.

Refer to Section C – Statement of Work/Specifications. The following are clarifications to the original statement of work.

Question: Will all sample submission data be provided at once, or will it be received in a rolling fashion?

Answer: They will be received in a rolling fashion.

Question: If in a rolling fashion, how frequently will each set of samples and/or sample submission data be sent, and how many samples will comprise each shipment of samples and/or sample submission data?

Answer: The number of submissions will be highly variable, typically several each week. A shipment may comprise from one to a several hundred samples. One to 100 samples would be most typical.

Question: If "hard copy sample submission data" is provided, how many fields must be manually entered into the database to be set up?

Answer: Assume the sample submission data will be in hard copy and will have to be hand entered into your database. There will be approximately 10 fields to be entered for each submission and 2 fields for each sample.

Question: What percentage of samples will have labels with barcoded information which can be scanned error-free into the database to be set up, and what percentage of samples will require manual data entry of the alpha numeric sample identifiers?

Answer: Assume not of the samples will have labels with barcoded information during FY2003 barcodes may be implemented later.

Question: Will "other field data" be provided in hard copy on the sample labels, encoded within the barcodes, or provided in electronic format?

Question: If "other field data" will not be provided within the barcodes or in electronic format, how many fields will require manual data entry?

Answer: These are covered in answers to Questions 3 and 4.

Question: How many samples for extraction will be blood samples, and how many samples for extraction will be tissue samples?

Answer: You will only be required to extract DNA from whole blood samples. The DNA will be extracted from other tissue and will be submitted to your lab as an aliquot of DNA.

Question: What quantity of whole blood will be provided for extraction (number of ml of whole blood) and what quantity of tissue will be provided for extraction (number of grams of tissue)?

Answer: Whole blood will be submitted in EDTA tubes in 5 – 7 ml amounts. No other whole tissues will be submitted to your laboratory.

Question: What number of DNA aliquots is required for each DNA sample?

Question: Is a genotyping technique required which independently tests "both strands of the appropriate genetic material," implying that an independent confirmation of the DNA sequence of the required condons is desired?

Answer: The specific test used is a decision each specific laboratory must determine the selected procedures must accurately (less than 5% no calls and less than 1 error per 1000 samples) provide the information needed by the Scrapie Eradication Program.

Question: Clarification needed on the approximate number of DNA samples and number of DNA aliquots which should be stored for both the Base Year and the Option Year 1.

Answer: Each animal sample received should have DNA and/or whole blood cryogenically archived. The amount stored should be all that remains after the initial genotyping.

Question: What is the anticipated maximum storage time?

Answer: Any time after five years the company may dispose of the DNA once the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Veterinary Services (VS) has been notified in writing and has declined in writing to take possession of the DNA.

Question: Does the daily sample throughput apply to DNA samples genotyped (i.e. up to 900 genotypes per day on 300 DNA samples per day) or to the number of genotypes to be generated (i.e. 300 genotypes per day: 100 genotypes each for condons 136, 154, and 171)?

Answer: The throughput indicated would be the maximum number of blood samples that could be processed on a day in and day out basis and meet the 5 day reporting requirement.

Question: Confirmation that this is a fixed price contract which includes both DNA extraction and genotyping of condons 136, 154 and 171?

Answer: Yes, it is a fixed price contact.

Question: Since the DNA extraction pricing is different from the genotyping pricing, if both are required, should they be listed as separate line items, or should the 'Unit Price" reflect both the cost of the extraction and the cost of the genotyping?

Answer: Price should be quoted as genotyping plus 1, 2 or 3 condons run at the same time and for typing extracted DNA and for running additional condons at a later date.

Question: It is not clear if all 3 condons will be required to be tested all of the time, or if sometimes it might be only 1 condon, and other times it might be 2 or all 3.

Answer: Condon 171 will be the most frequently requested site; Condon 136 will be the next most frequently requested sit for genotyping and both strands of DNA shall be read at the condon site. The two condons may be requested together or separately with the frequency requested. Price should be quoted as genotyping plus 1, 3 or 3 condons run at the same time and for typing extracted DNA and for running additional condons at a later date.

Question: Who is to pay for the sample collection, collection supplies and shipment of the samples?

Answer: The submitter of the samples is responsible for paying for the listed activities and supplies.

Question: Does APHIS have recommendations/requirements regarding the number of replications for each sample?

Answer: No. The specific test used is a decision each specific laboratory shall determine. The selected procedures must accurately (less than 5% no calls and less than 1 error per 1000 samples) provide the information needed by the Scrapie Eradication Program.

Question: Who will be submitting the samples: APHIS personnel, individual producers or somebody else?

Answer: Federal and State veterinary medical officers, and accredited veterinarians will submit all official Scrapie program samples. Samples submitted by owners will not be official samples and will not fall within the terms of this request for service.

Question: What is the main sample type expected to be? For example, are most of the samples expected to be blood?

Answer: Whole blood will be submitted in EDTA tubes in 5 – 7 ml amounts. No other whole tissues will be submitted to the laboratory. The Contractor will only be required to extract DNA from whole blood samples. The DNA will be extracted from other tissue and will be submitted to the laboratory as an aliquot of DNA.